

Light reading



November/December 2014



From the general manager

Seattle Mayor Ed Murray has unveiled new proposals to improve participation in the city's Utility Discount Program, which offers a 60 percent discount for electrical service and a 50 percent discount for water/sewer/garbage service. His goal is to increase enrollment to 28,000 customers by the end of 2018.

The mayor's report offers numerous improvements that would encourage more people to sign up, including:

- streamline the enrollment process;
- put the application online;
- and keep customers in the program once they're signed up.

There are many other short- and long-term recommendations in the report that can help accomplish the mayor's ambitious goal.

By doing so, we keep a promise to our customers, outlined in City Light's Strategic Plan: While we continually strive to improve service and strengthen the utility, we also reach out to our most vulnerable customers, helping to make their power more affordable.

Find out more about the Utility

Discount Program at this website: www.seattle.gov/light/assistance.



Jorge Carrasco
General Manager & CEO

Conservation news



Rebate rewards

Now is the time to purchase energy-efficient appliances before programs and rebates change in 2015. Some examples: Get a \$100 rebate on a new high-efficiency washing machine, \$50 on an ENERGY STAR® refrigerator, and instant discounts on ENERGY STAR compact florescent lights and LEDs. Learn more at www.seattle.gov/light/save.

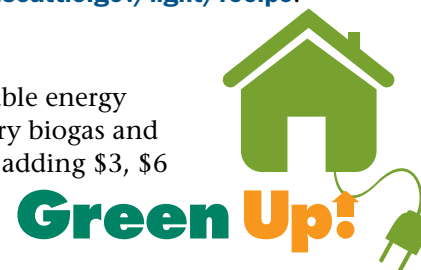


Cookin' With Kilowatts contest winners

Customers took up the challenge and submitted creative, tasty recipes during our Cookin' With Kilowatts contest. In the adult category, Seattle's Matthew Riesenberg won first place with his baked coconut shrimp and curried chutney recipe using a toaster oven, and in the kids' category So Ze Hua D. came in first with a recipe for congee (rice porridge) in a rice cooker. Look for the winning recipes in our online Cookin' With Kilowatts cookbook, coming soon: www.seattle.gov/light/recipe.

Green is clean

Help us grow green power: To increase renewable energy generation from small hydro, geothermal, dairy biogas and wind, join City Light's Green Up! program by adding \$3, \$6 or \$12 to your monthly bill. Sign up at www.seattle.gov/green or call **206.684.3800**.



Conservation Hero

"I thought it was cool to have a refrigerator in my basement. After receiving the City Light ad informing me that it was costing up to \$150 to operate, I decided it wasn't worth the cost and had it recycled. They came and picked it up, and I got \$30 to take my girlfriend out to dinner. Thank you City Light."

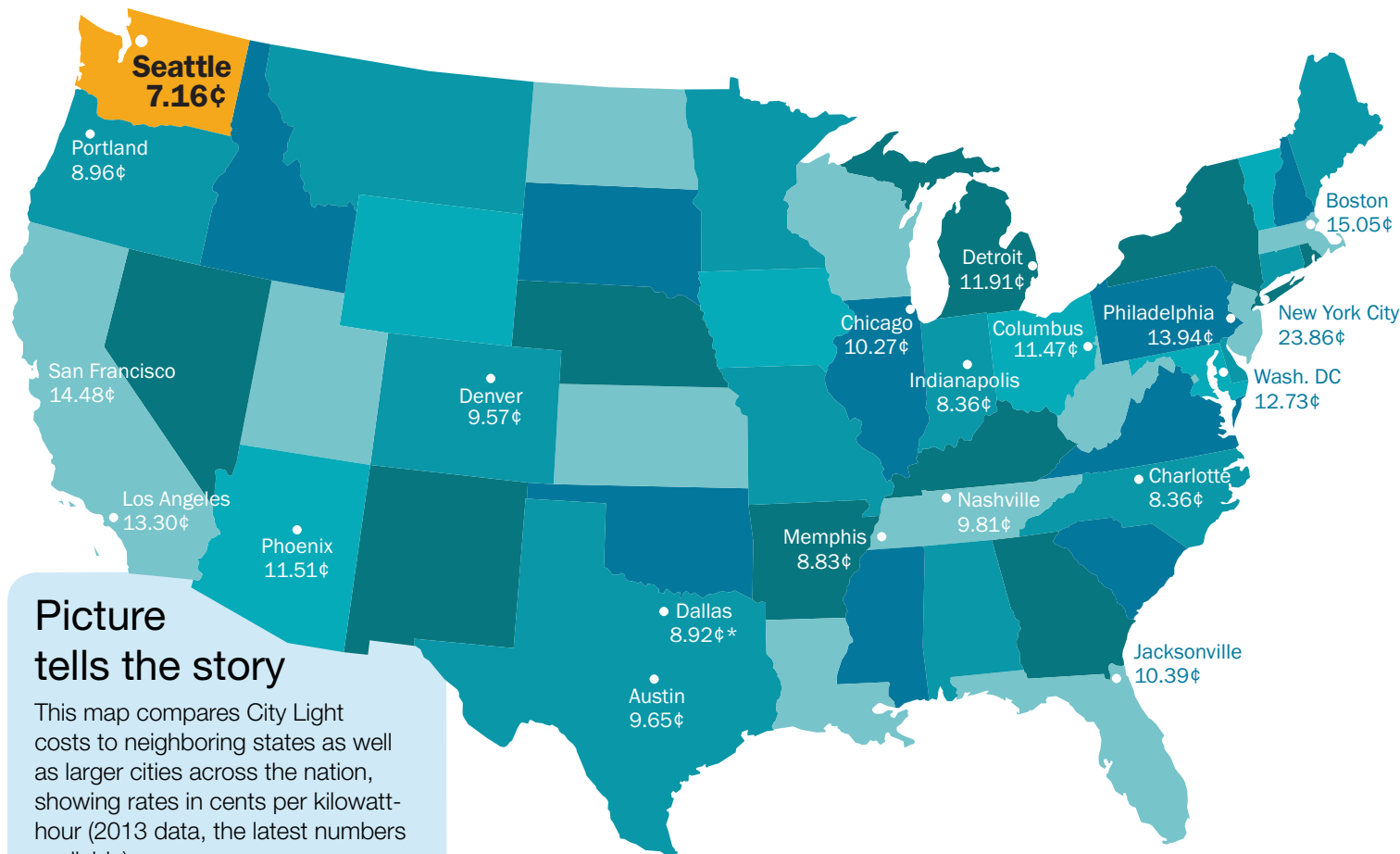
- Chris L. from Burien



For more information about City Light's Refrigerator Recycling program, visit www.seattle.gov/oldfridge. Want to save like a Conservation Hero? Do you have a question about energy conservation or our renewable energy power programs? Call a Seattle City Light Energy Advisor at **206.684.3800** or email SCLEnergyadvisor@seattle.gov.



Sign up for City Light's online billing at www.seattle.gov/light/paymybill.



Picture tells the story

This map compares City Light costs to neighboring states as well as larger cities across the nation, showing rates in cents per kilowatt-hour (2013 data, the latest numbers available).

We're proud of our abundant, clean, low-cost hydro power, and continue to look for ways to offer customers affordable electricity.

Sources: Edison Electric Institute's "Typical Bills and Average Rates Report Winter 2014" or directly from each utility. Data is based on typical bills and average rates.

*Some Texas utilities assigned Texas average rate (Energy Information Administration) due to deregulation.



We're 5-STAR rated

Seattle earned a 5-STAR rating for national leadership in sustainability by the group STAR Communities, in part through City Light's green programs. More at www.starcommunities.org.



Safety tip from the field

"City Light is a partner of Take Winter By Storm, which helps you prepare for storms and

other emergencies. Get road and traffic reports, schools closures, even the latest news from the National Weather Service on this website: www.takewinterbystorm.org."

- Sam Chen, City Light utility construction worker



City Light offers some of the lowest rates in the nation and the Northwest.

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Questions, comments or suggestions?

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Newsletter available in Spanish,

Vietnamese, Chinese, Somali, Tagalog

and Korean online or call **206.684.3000**.

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Outage info online

For timely information during outages, check

our improved, faster outage map at www.seattle.gov/light/sysstat.

In your neighborhood: City Light @ work

Crews are in these neighborhoods, working to provide you with reliable power:

- West Seattle, North City, Richmond Beach and Wedgewood (various locations): injecting underground electrical cables to extend cable life;
- Viewridge (south of N.E. 65th St): installing conduit for future cable replacement;
- Burien, Seattle, Shoreline (various locations): replacing utility poles;
- South Beacon Hill/Allentown: removing soil and temporarily restoring area within transmission line right-of-way that crosses I-5, then closing project for the winter;
- Holly Park: improving streetlight system.

Visit www.seattle.gov/light/construction and click on the construction sign for details.



Seattle City Light's 2014 Community Solar offerings include the following projects:

- **Phinney Ridge — 74.79 kilowatts**
Brings solar to Phinney Neighborhood Association and the Woodland Park Zoo
- **Capitol Hill EcoDistrict — 25.92 kilowatts**
Solar energy benefitting affordable housing

Each project brings something special to its host, our community, and of course, the participants. Units are on sale now at seattle.gov/communitysolar



Jefferson Park
Community Solar Project
2012

Community Solar — watts in it for me?

Solar energy is in the news a lot these days, which may have prompted you to think about “going solar.” But what if putting solar on your own home or business isn’t for you? Too much shade? Too expensive? Don’t own your own home? **Seattle City Light has the answer!**

Community Solar lets renters, condo owners, or those who don’t want to buy a whole system get the benefits of a solar array built by City Light and shared by the community.

A City Light account is all that’s required to buy units in a Community Solar project — starting as small as a 28 watt piece for \$150. State incentives and City Light energy credits pay you back by 2020.

To learn more, call (206) 684-3800 or visit our website at seattle.gov/communitysolar.

